

Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Roundtable on “21st Century Cures: Digital Health Care”
June 24, 2014

(As prepared for delivery)

Today we continue our bipartisan 21st Century Cures initiative as we look to learn more about how exciting new technologies can advance digital health care and the discovery, development, and delivery cycle of new cures and treatments. Of the 7,000 known diseases, we have treatments for only 500 of them but we are collectively working to change that.

As we outlined in a white paper released last week, digital health care holds tremendous promise. By fostering innovation in health information technology, genomics, data analytics, sensors, telemedicine, mobile apps, cloud technology and other technologies and platforms, we can make our health care system more personalized and proactive and thus better for patients.

We have an all-star lineup for today's discussion – I'd like to welcome:

- Dr. Jeff Shuren, Director of the Center for Devices and Radiological Health at the Food and Drug Administration
- Dr. Joseph M. Smith, Chief Medical and Science Officer at West Health
- Dr. Brian Druker, Director of the Knight Cancer Center at the Oregon Health and Science University
- Gina Gavlak, RN, BSN, Chair, National Advocacy Committee for the American Diabetes Association
- Sean Hogan, Vice President for Health Care at IBM
- Martin Harris, Chief Information Officer of The Cleveland Clinic
- Anne Wojcicki, CEO & Co-Founder of 23andMe
- Dr. Mark Blatt, Worldwide Medical Director of Intel Corporation
- Jonathon Bush, CEO & President of Athenahealth, Inc
- Paul Magelli, CEO of Pervasive Health

Thank you all for joining us today. The digital age offers exciting potential, but we want to understand what obstacles might stand in the way of advancement. We want to hear from you and hope we can use the conversation we have today to help guide the future of 21st Century Cures and of digital health care in America. I would also note to my colleagues that we are here primarily to listen and learn from what I am sure will be an interesting dialogue.

Since we launched this effort nearly two months ago, we have been encouraged and truly touched by the outpouring of support and ideas. I want to thank those folks who have offered their input already. We've said many times, this is a collaborative effort. For folks in the audience and watching at home, please continue to share your ideas with cures@mail.house.gov. As this is the digital roundtable, I also encourage you to engage with this effort on social media. You can like 21st Century Cures on Facebook at [Facebook.Com/EnergyCommerceCures](https://www.facebook.com/EnergyCommerceCures), follow us on twitter via [@ECCures](https://twitter.com/ECCures), and join the conversation using the [#Path2Cures](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Path2Cures).

I would now like to recognize my colleague and partner in this initiative, Congresswoman Diana DeGette.

###